

City of Rockville Environment Commission
Watersheds Committee (WC) Meeting Minutes
Tuesday January 25, 2011
Red Maple Room, Rockville City Hall
7:15 pm

Meeting Attendance: Steve Cardon, Julie Palakovich-Carr, Anne Goodman, Jim Ingle, Nadine Steinburg, Alicia Hosmer and staff liaison Amanda Matheny.

1. Environment Commission (EC) Report:

- S. Cardon reported:
 - The last EC meeting was held on January 18, 2011. There was a discussion of the Environmental Literacy requirements for MCPS. Comments are due by Wednesday February 2, 2011.
 - The EC Chair has asked each Committee to define 3-4 goals for 2011. Along with setting goals, each Committee should define mile-markers or benchmarks to measure progress.
 - A discussion was had on the vacancy on the EC. The ideal candidate will have a Green Building background.
 - Science Day will be held on Sunday April 10, 2011. The Commission is still deciding which components they would like to include in their outreach at this event.
 - After April 2011, S. Cardon will no longer serve as a member of the Environment Commission. He suggested that he should not serve as the watershed chair and nominated J. Palakovich-Carr to fill the role. By unanimous vote, J. Palakovich-Carr was named the new Watershed Chair for the Watersheds Committee.

2. Environmental Mgmt. Division Report:

- A. Matheny reported:
 - The division has been working on getting dates set for Spring events. Important environmental events and dates to note:
 - March 6, 2011 – SOS Training (Refresher) at Croydon Creek Nature Center
 - April 1, 2011 – Submission deadline for Environmental Photo Contest
 - April 3, 2011 – SOS Monitoring Rock Creek
 - April 9, 2011 – Trash Free Potomac Day (Alice Ferguson Foundation)
 - April 10, 2011 – Invasive plant pull at Croydon Creek Nature Center and Science Day
 - April 16, 2011 – SOS Monitoring Watts Branch and Cabin John
 - April 30, 2011 – Spring Festival at Croydon Creek Nature Center
 - June 4, 2011 – Per A. Goodman, a garden tour will be held
 - There will be a Clean Water Summit on Feb. 26, 2011 8am-1:30pm, at the Silver Spring Civic Bldg. The summit is a citizen led effort to gather groups and individuals interested in the local watershed together for networking and volunteerism. Admission is free but registration is required.

- The WC worked together to complete the Potomac River Basin Watershed Group Survey. A. Matheny will submit the completed survey to Audra Lew at the Interstate Commission on the Potomac River Basin (ICPRB).

3. Discussion:

- J. Ingle asked whether the Mayor and Council ever attends Adopt-a-Stream events or other clean up events around the city. A. Matheny reported that she will look into the process of inviting the Mayor and Council to the April 9, 2011 event.
- A. Matheny presented briefly on the Chesapeake Bay TMDL (Total Maximum Daily Load). At this time the State of Maryland is in the process of developing the Phase II of the Watershed Implementation Plan (WIP). The Phase II WIP will be due in June. At that time, we should have a greater understanding of what the TMDL will mean for Rockville.

4. Adjourn:

The meeting adjourned at 8:30 pm.

5. Next Steps:

Prior to the February meeting, group members should identify projects or goals for the Watersheds Committee to focus on in 2011.

The next Watersheds Committee meeting is scheduled for
Wednesday, February 16, 2011 at 7:15 pm in the Blue Crab conference room at Rockville City Hall, 111 Maryland Avenue, Rockville, Maryland, 20850.